

C48

## UNCLASSIFIED

LA/CATF  
INCOMING

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FRP: .2,3,4, . . .

IMMEDIATE

STATE

ACTION: NONE INFO: ALA/CR-2, ALA/ES-2, ALA/G-2, ALA/HO-2, ALA/MC/CAR, ALA/MC/D, ALA/MC/E1, ALA/MC/EP, ALA/MC/PME, ALA/MC/RAE, ALA/N-2, ALA/P-2, ALA/PO/LA, NMN, ODPG-G, ODPN-N, ODP-S, ODPW-W, OGI/GD/AWH, OGI/IIC/PI, OGI/TAB1, OGI/TAB2, OGI/VIP/MP, OOE/EI/PS, DPCTR/EALA, PAGE-E ( ), RF, FILE, DDO-4, DDA, LA/CATF-3, CI/OC, COMMO/RB, CR/W, CTG/ISB-3, D/FBIS-2, D/OMS-3, DOZO/AODCT, EPO/LA, IAD/CTG-4, ICS/HC/LA, INT/RR, NCECF, NCPM, NICAG/TWI, NIO/CT, NIO/LA, OC/CSD-2, OC/FILE, OC/HQ/SOG, OC/NOB, OC/SOG-3, OGI/ISI/CA, OIA/TWALA, OIA/TWSS, OTS/SAD, PPS/AO, PPS/PO, PPS/SED-3, QA/STATE, SAG/LIB, SECUR-2, STD/PPC, SWO, (56/W)

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FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6736  
INFO RUESN/AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO 0456  
RUEHLL/CONTADORA COLLECTIVE  
BT  
UNCLAS TEGUCIGALPA 13661  
  
E.O. 12356: N/A  
TAGS: PREL PGOV PTER HD  
SUBJECT: HONDURAN PRESS COMMUNIQUE ON ATTEMPT TO  
ASSASSINATE PRESIDENT SUAZO

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E-3  
Dept. of State, RPS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.  
Release ( ) Excise ( ) Deny ( ) Declassify  
Date 2/21/07 Exemption \_\_\_\_\_

1. SUMMARY: AFTER EMERGENCY MEETING OF KEY CABINET AND CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS, FONMIN PAZ BARNICA READ GOH PRESS COMMUNIQUE ON THE ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE PRESIDENT SUAZO ON NATIONAL RADIO NET AT 9:30 P.M. LOCAL TIME NOVEMBER 1. COMMUNIQUE STATES THAT AS A RESULT OF U.S. EVIDENCE IMPLICATING GEN. BUENO ROSA, THE FORMER CHIEF OF STAFF, GOH HAS WITHDRAWN HIS DIPLOMATIC STATUS IN CHILE, SO AS TO FACILITATE ARREST AND EXTRADITION. COMMUNIQUE ALSO RELATES PLOT TO "INTERNAL DESTABILIZING ACTIVITIES... IN RECENT MONTHS ... TO PREPARE THE INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL CONDITIONS FOR SUCH REPREHENSIBLE ACTS ..." BUT DOES NOT SPECIFY EXACTLY WHAT THESE ACTIVITIES WERE NOR ASSIGN RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEM. THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES, THE FBI, AND AMB. NEGROPONTE WERE PRAISED FOR THEIR ROLE IN PREVENTING THE ASSASSINATION. END SUMMARY.

2. FOLLOWING IS EMBASSY'S INFORMAL TRANSLATION PRESS COMMUNIQUE:

BEGIN QUOTE:

- DECLARATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF HONDURAS

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- THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA COMMUNICATED OFFICIALLY TODAY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF HONDURAS THROUGH ITS AMBASSADOR THAT THE COMPETENT AUTHORITIES OF THE UNITED STATES, AMONG THEM THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (FBI), HAVE UNCOVERED A CONSPIRACY OF COMPLEX RAMIFICATIONS TO ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE THE CONSTITUTIONAL PRESIDENT OF HONDURAS, DR. ROBERTO SUAZO CORDOVA, AND TO IMPLEMENT A CAREFULLY PREPARED PLAN TO OVERTHROW THE CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT THAT

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THE PEOPLE OF HONDURAS FREELY ELECTED THE 27TH OF NOVEMBER 1981.

- ALSO, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA HAS INFORMED US BY THESE MEANS THAT THE PLOT IS RELATED TO A MULTIMILLION DOLLAR NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING OPERATION.
- THE PRESIDENT F THE REPUBLIC, DR. ROBERTO SUAZO CORDOVA, WAS KEPT INFORMED FROM THE FIRST MOMENT THAT THE INVESTIGATION WAS INITIATED. TODAY THE INVESTIGATION ENTERED A DETERMINING PHASE WITH THE ARREST AND IMPRISONMENT IN MIAMI, FLORIDA, OF THE FOLLOWING PERSONS: MANUEL BINKER, ROBERT KURTZ, GERARD LATCHINIAN, JEROME LATCHINIAN, ELAINE PEREZ, JUAN ROCA, FAIZ SIKAFFY, AND JOSE ZIMMERMAN.

- THE OFFICIAL REPORTS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES, AS RECEIVED BY THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN RELATIONS, INDICATED THAT ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL ACCOMPLICES IN THIS CONSPIRACY WAS GENERAL JOSE ABDENEGO BUESO ROSA, WHO BECAUSE OF THE EVENTS OF THE 31ST OF MARCH OF THIS YEAR HAD BEEN ASSIGNED AS THE DEFENSE ATTACHE OF HONDURAS IN CHILE.

- IN THIS RESPECT, THE DIRECTOR OF THE FBI STATED THAT GEN. JOSE ABDENEGO BUESO ROSA AND GERARD LATCHINIAN AND FAIZ SIKAFFY HAVE BEEN ACCUSED IN THE COURTS OF MIAMI OF PARTICIPATIN IN A CONSPIRACY TO ASSASSINATE PRESIDENT SUAZO CORDOVA AND TO BRING DOWN THE CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF HONDURAS.

- THE INVESTIGATIONS CARRIED OUTSO FAR BY THE COMPETENT AUTHORITIES OF THE NORTH AMERICAN GOVERNMENT REVEAL THAT OTHER PEOPLE ARE ALSO INVOLVED, BOTH HONDURANS AND FOREIGNERS.

- THE GOVERNMENT OF HONDURAS IMMEDIATELY CANCELLED THE ASSIGNMENT OF GEN. BUESO ROSA AS ATTACHE IN CHILE, WHICH REMOVED HIS DIPLOMATIC STATUS TO ALLOW HIS DETENTION AND EXTRADITION, WHICH WILL IN TURN OPEN THE WAY FOR APPROPRIATE LEGAL ACTION.

- THE GOVERNMENT OF HODURAS WISHES TO POINT OUT THAT THIS PLOT AGAINST THE LIFE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE HONDURAN PEOPLE AND AGAINST THE DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS OF OUR COUNTRY, UNPRECEDENTED IN ITS

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TAGS: PREL, PGOV, PTER, HO  
SUBJECT: HONDURAN PRESS COMMUNIQUE ON ATTEMPT TO

NATURE, IMPLICATIONS, AND CONSEQUENCES, IS RELATED TO THE INTERNAL DESTABILIZING ACTIVITIES WHICH HAVE BEEN TAKING PLACE IN OUR COUNTRY IN THE LAST FEW MONTHS TO DESTROY THE CREDIBILITY AND IMAGE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC AND TO PREPARE THE INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL CONDITIONS FOR SUCH REPREHENSIBLE ACTS AS THE AFORESAID.

- IN THE LAST MONTHS, THERE HAVE BEEN CLEAR SIGNS OF THESE DESTABILIZING ACTIVITIES. MOVEMENTS OF UNREST (PERTURBACION) HAVE APPEARED ON THE MARGINS OF THE LAW, AND, COINCIDENTALLY, WE HAVE NOTED THE INTENTIONS OF SOME INTERESTED GROUPS IN INSTRUMENTING A CAMPAIGN OF SYSTEMATIC QUESTIONING OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC, WHICH TENDS TO UNDERMINE THE LEGALLY CONSTITUTED REGIME.

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- IN ADDITION, THERE HAVE BEEN INSIDIOUS AND UNWARRANTED ATTACKS CONTINUALLY AGAINST THE CONSTITUTIONAL PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC. THE INSINUATIONS THAT SOME GROUPS AND PRIVATE PERSONS AIRED PUBLICLY, INTENDED TO DISCREDIT AND TO SLOW DOWN THE ELECTORAL PROCESS WHICH IS NOW BEGINNING, AND THE CONTINUOUS DEMANDS THAT INSTITUTIONS SET FORTH IN OUR JURIDICAL/POLITICAL STRUCTURE SET ASIDE THEIR CONSTITUTIONAL FUNCTIONS, ALLOWS ONE TO SUPPOSE THAT THESE ACCUSATIONS ARE NOT UNRELATED TO THIS STRATEGY OF DISORDER.
- THE HONDURAN PRESIDENT, DR. ROBERTO SUAZO CORDOVA, CALLS ON ALL THE CITIZENS, WITH TOTAL FIRMNESS AND WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE EXISTING LEGAL STRUCTURE, TO SUPPORT THE DEMOCRATIC WAY OF LIFE AND GOVERNMENT THAT NOW IS BEING CONSOLIDATED IN OUR COUNTRY, WHICH HAS BEEN THE OBJECT OF DETERMINED QUESTIONING DERIVING FROM UNCHECKED PERSONAL AMBITIONS. IN THE SAME MANNER, HE EXPRESSES HIS SINCERE APPRECIATION FOR THE MULTIPLE MANIFESTATIONS OF SUPPORT WHICH ARE BEING SHOWN BY DISTINCTIVE POLITICAL, SOCIAL, AND ECONOMIC SECTORS OF OUR COUNTRY, AND BY THE EXPRESSIONS OF SOLIDARITY WHICH ARE BEING RECEIVED FROM FRIENDLY GOVERNMENTS.
- THE PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT OF HONDURAS AND IN A VERY SPECIAL MANNER PRESIDENT ROBERTO SUAZO CORDOVA EXPRESS IN THIS WAY THEIR APPRECIATION TO THE PEOPLE AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FOR THE EFFECTIVE INVESTIGATION AND DISMANTLING OF THIS CRIMINAL CONSPIRACY. IT DEMONSTRATES THE UNDIVIDED SUPPORT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND ITS GOVERNMENT TO THE DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS OF OUR COUNTRY, AND IT CONSTITUTES IN ADDITION FIRMNESS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST DRUG TRAFFICKING AND INTERNATIONAL VIOLENCE WHICH COMES FROM BOTH THE EXTREME LEFT AND THE EXTREME RIGHT.
- THE GOVERNMENT OF HONDURAS HAS REQUESTED THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES CONTINUE APPROPRIATE LEGAL ACTION TO PUNISH THOSE WHO ARE GUILTY OF THIS CRIME TO DAMAGE THE STATE.
- THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, THROUGH ITS AMBASSADOR IN HONDURAS, JOHN DIMITRI NEGROPONTE, HAS EXPRESSED TO THE GOVERNMENT ITS DETERMINATION TO CONTINUE WITH ALL THE NECESSARY INVESTIGATIONS TO THIS END.
- BY THIS MEANS, PRESIDENT SUAZO CORDOBA REITERATES ONE MORE TIME THE POLITICAL WILL OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT TO WORK BRAVELY AND WITHOUT REST TO STRENGTHEN THE DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS AND SOLIDIFY THE ROCK-LIKE UNITY OF ALL HONDURANS WHICH IS AN INDISPENSIBLE NECESSITY OF A PERMANENT NATURE. IT BECOMES EVEN MORE ESSENTIAL IN CIRCUMSTANCES LIKE THIS, A TIME WHEN OUR WAY OF LIFE AND GOVERNMENT HAVE BEEN THREATENED BY THE ENEMIES OF DEMOCRACY WHO FRUSTRATE THE ASPIRATIONS OF THE PEOPLE.
- THE CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC HAS THE FIRM AND FULL BACKING OF THE ARMED FORCES AND THE SUPPORT OF THE HONDURAN PEOPLE TO GUARANTEE THE STABILITY, PEACE, AND LIBERTY OF OUR COUNTRY.

TEGUCIGALPA, D.C., NOVEMBER 1, 1984.

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TAGS: PREL, PGOV, PTER, HD  
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END QUOTE.

3. DURING HALF-HOUR PRESS CONFERENCE FOLLOWING  
READING OF COMMUNIQUE, FOUR-MAN PANEL REPRESENTING  
GOH AND CONGRESS (FONMIN PAZ, MINISTER OF THE  
PRESIDENCY ARRIAGA, AND DEPUTIES CARLOS FLORES AND  
PINEDA PONCE) TOOK QUESTIONS. PANELISTS REPLIED  
THEMES IN COMMUNIQUE, STRESSING INTEREST OF EXTREME  
RIGHT AND LEFT IN DESTABILIZING THE COUNTRY. IN  
THIS REGARD, PANELISTS ALSO USED OPPORTUNITY TO  
REMARK THAT ONLY THE INTERESTS OF NICARAGUA AND  
CUBA WOULD HAVE BENEFITED FROM SUCCESSFUL  
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ASSASSINATION PLOT  
AGAINST PRESIDENT SUAZO.  
NEGROPONTE

END OF MESSAGE

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